GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1643
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2000
BELOW POVERTY LINE
ALE NARENDRA

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Union Governmentfor increasing ceiling for identifying the people living below poverty line;

(b) whether such requests has also been made by the other State Government also; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AN PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission has received representation from the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Orissa in this regard.

(c): The State Government of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka represented forestimation of poverty after eliminating the impact of the price depressing effect of the food subsidy scheme, funded from the State Exchequer. The Government of Andhra Pradesh at a later stage also represented for reversion to the earlier methodology of poverty estimation, known as the Task Force method. The Government of Orissa has represented for adopting the national level poverty line for estimation of poverty in the State. The Planning Commission in a meeting held on 10th March, 1997, under the chairmanship of the then Prime Minister had taken the view that estimates of poverty at national and state level be made from the methodology contained in the Report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor (Lakdawala Committee). After carefully considering the representations, it has taken the view that there is no justification for changing the official methodology for estimation of poverty.